SUBJECTS.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvila :—The time has not come for legislation in this matter. If it comes to that, I would prefer a Commission to hold a thorough enquiry. But my opinion is to leave matters alone.

Mr. K. C. Mamman Mappilla:— A Commission should be appointed to enquire into the matter.

Mr. Kuruvila Thomman :—I have no decided ideas on the subject.

Mr. Kuriakose :—The Church authorities should be consulted.

Mr. Paul Daniel :—I see no necessity for legislation.

Mr. W. J. John :—I think legislation is necessary.

Mr. P. M. Chacko :—Legislation will be useful.

Dewan's reply.—The views of the several Members are noted.

20. Disabilities of converts to Christianity in the matter of inheritance & certain objectionable words in the Marumakkattayam Bill affecting Christian sentiments.

Mr. Stephen Joseph (Member, Roman Catholic Associations, Quilon, Trivandrum and Nagercoil) said that, in several previous Sessions of the Assembly, the same subject had been repeatedly brought forward, by not less than six delegates representing different Associations of Christian interest. These Members had fully and clearly pointed out the necessity for legislation. But the Government were not pleased to take a favourable view of the representation. The Member said that it was therefore a matter of deep regret and disappointment to the constituencies, to hear that their reasonable requests for impartial and equitable laws, were rejected or taken no notice of, because of the existence of certain hide-bound customs of a different community. In the Third Session of the Assembly, the then Dewan said that interference with the law of inheritance was beset with numerous difficulties, and it was not expedient that Government should undertake legislation in the present circumstances of the country. The replies at the two previous Sessions were neither encouraging nor decisive. The Member requested that Government might be pleased to reconsider the question and take early steps to pass an Act, removing the disabilities of converts to Christianity in the matter of inheritance.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

21. Judicial matters.

Mr. K. Sankara Pillai (Member, Kottarakara Taluk) brought to the notice of Government that the transaction of business in the Munsiffs' Courts was very unsatisfactory. He said that there were large arrears in all classes of Courts and in almost all branches of work. He also pointed out

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